

REMARKS

Claims 1-41 are pending and under consideration.

The rejections based on Watanabe and Guzik are respectfully traversed. Using independent claim 1 as an example, this claim recites the pickups being at a same radial distance from a center of the disk.

The Examiner admits that Watanabe does not teach these features, but instead relies upon Guzik. However, this reference does not expressly teach that the pickups are at a same radial distance. Instead, Fig. 2 of this reference illustrates the heads 152a-152d, but does not indicate their radii from the center. While these radii may appear to be the same according to the remote view of Fig. 2, a more detailed examination indicates that these radii differ. For example, in the more detailed view of Fig. 2A, head 152a appears to be closer to the center than head 152b. Head 152b is closer than head 152c, which is closer than head 152d.

Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's combination is not proper. The Examiner purports to modify Watanabe to include same radii. However, Watanabe specifically teaches that the magnetic heads having the same radius r "cannot be adopted." Specifically, when one head device records and another reads at the same radius, recording/reading cannot be achieved with reliability. Watanabe, col. 2, ln. 19-26. Thus, the reference itself teaches away from using same radii in connection with the invention disclosed therein.

Furthermore, it is submitted that the references are not analogous art. Specifically, Watanabe deals with the testing of the magnetic head devices themselves, whereas Guzik deals with testing of the disc.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

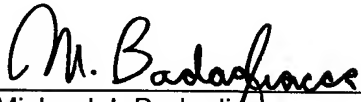
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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By: 
Michael J. Badagliacca
Registration No. 39,099

1201 New York Avenue, NW, 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501